



All the Family Fishing Areas listed here have year-round seasons, general six-fish limits for trout and bass (no limits on other species), no length limits and any standard fishing gear may be used.

### The Basic Equipment:

Fishing equipment ranges from the simple and basic to the highly technical and expensive. Here are a few tips to help a beginner get set up:

- A moderately priced 5 to 5½ foot medium-weight rod with a matching spinning reel will serve for most kinds of fishing. Add some 4 to 8-pound monofilament line, hooks, sinkers, small bobbers, lures, and bait, and you are ready to go. Use smaller hooks (size 8-12) for small sunfish, and larger hooks (size 4-8) for trout and bass.
- Many baits, such as salmon eggs, flavored marshmallows, or worms are available at tackle shops and convenience stores. Some adventurous anglers like to catch their own bait – garden worms and night crawlers are easily found in yards and gardens, and grasshoppers can be found most anywhere from mid-summer through early fall.

### Selecting Baits and Lures:

- Fish have specific food preferences and habits that will determine the types of baits and lures you will choose.  
*Note: Anglers may not use any live fish for bait.*
- When using a lure such as a spinner or plug, keep it moving in a way that will imitate a small fish. When jigging, simply retrieve in an irregular motion and varying speed which allows the weighted jig to slow and drop slightly, then be picked up again.
- Worms work well in all types of water, and for most types of fish. Bait the hook so that it goes through the worm several times leaving part of the worm dangling.
- Salmon eggs work well in streams and may also catch trout in ponds and lakes. Grasshoppers work well in streams and ponds.
- Adding a small marshmallow to a baited hook will float the bait up off the bottom and place it in the fish's view.

### Tips for Finding and Catching Fish:

Finding the fish is the next step. Knowing something about their habits, preferences, and preferred locations will help.

- Fish are mobile and can be picky. Do not be afraid to adjust your baits, techniques and location until you find them.
- Fish are temperature sensitive. Trout prefer colder water, which in lakes may be found at the mouths of streams or in deeper water. Warm water panfish are often found in shallower water in the spring and early summer as the water starts to warm up.
- In lakes and ponds, trout are found in open water or cruising the shoreline. Try an egg or worm when casting from shore.
- On streams or rivers, lures such as spoons or spinners should be fished actively in the tail of riffles or around rocks and logs. Baits such as worms, grasshoppers, and salmon eggs should be drifted with the current into pools and pockets of water behind rocks and logs.
- Crappie, yellow perch and sunfish prefer shallower, warmer waters of ponds and reservoirs. Spring is the best time to fish for them just off docks, near vegetation and in shallower water. Try fishing for these fish with a worm and bobber set-up.

### Catch and Keep

Most species of Idaho gamefish make excellent eating when are cared for properly.

Here are a few tips:

- Only keep as many fish as you can eat.
- Keep fish, especially trout, cool and moist. If ice is not readily available, a creel with a bed of ferns, watercress or wet grass will work for a short time.
- Warm water fish can be kept in a live well or on a stringer until you are done fishing.  
A great way to prepare them is as “ready-to-cook” fillets. *Note: Do not transport live fish.*
- Place fish on the cutting board with head to the right (left, if you are left-handed), and the back toward you. With a sharp knife, cut through the skin and flesh behind the head to the backbone and cut toward the tail. Turn the fish over, repeat on other side, remove skin from the meat and your fillet is ready.

### Catch and Release

Some anglers prefer to release alive the fish they catch. Knowledge about how to safely release fish is important for each angler to know. Careful handling of the fish will increase its chance of survival. Here are some simple guidelines to help you:

- Once the fish has been hooked, retrieve it quickly. Overplaying the fish will cause undue stress.
- If hooked on the lip, hold the hook shank, pull back out with a gentle shake. If it is hooked more securely, wet one hand to hold the fish, keeping it in the water as much as possible (DO NOT HOLD BY THE GILLS), then with fingers or pliers secure the shank of the hook and back it out.
- If the hook is imbedded in the tongue, throat or gills, DO NOT attempt to remove the hook, simply cut the line as close to the hook as possible.
- If the fish does not swim readily away, hold upright and move gently back and forth through the water until it swims away.

IDFG adheres to all applicable state and federal laws and regulations related to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, or handicap. If you feel you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility of IDFG, or if you desire further information, please write to: Idaho Department of Fish and Game, P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707; or The Office of Human Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, DC 20240.

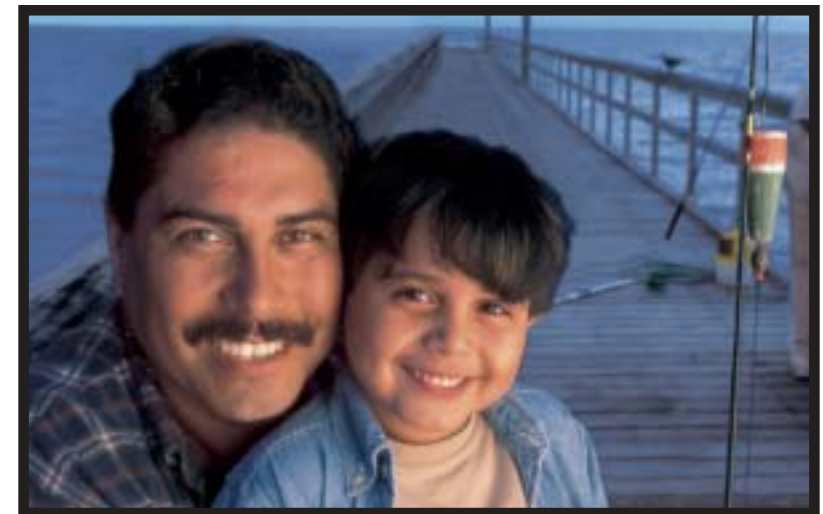


# FISH SOUTHWEST IDAHO...

## catch a memory!
















## Family Fishing Waters

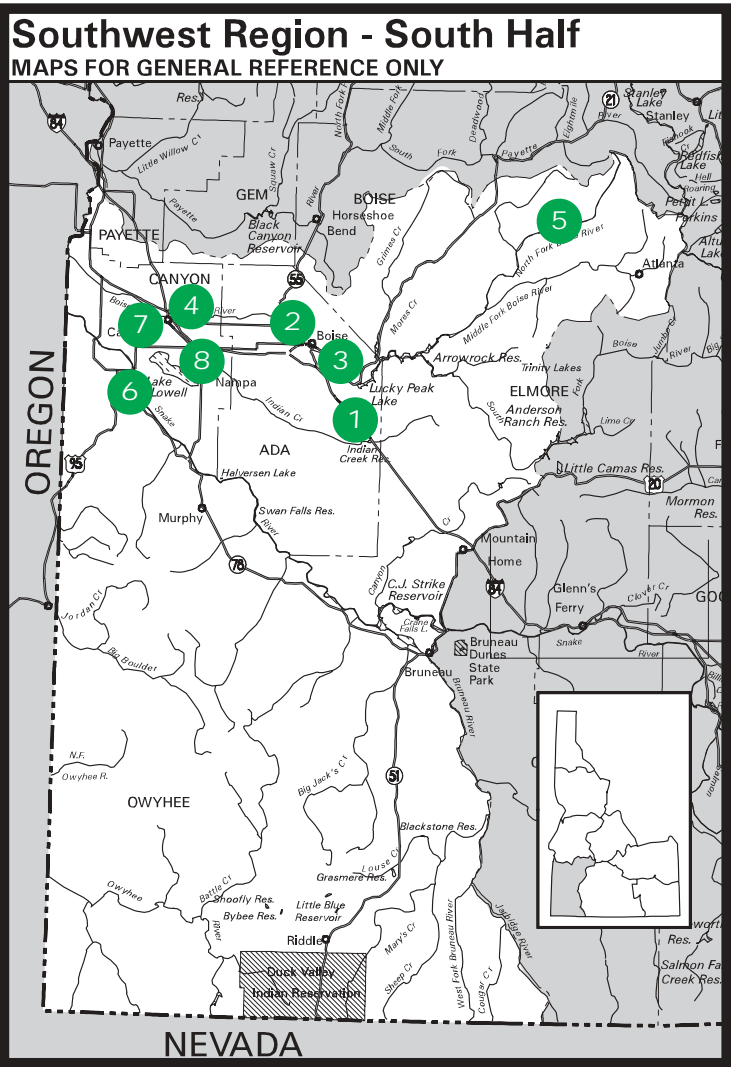


## Take Me Fishing ‘Cause I’ll Grow up Faster Than You Think

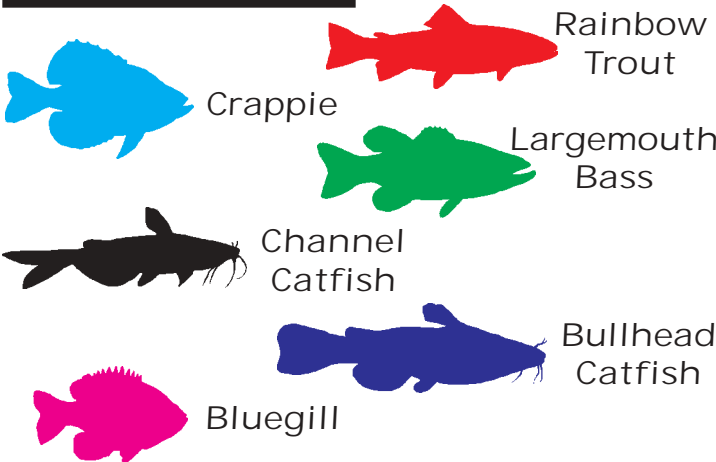


South Half Southwest Region













1. **Black's Creek Reservoir—Boise**  
Take Interstate 84 to Exit 64. Turn west on Black's Creek Road and drive approximately 3.5 miles to Black's Creek Reservoir. 
2. **Boise Area Ponds**  
**McDevitt Pond—Meridian**  
McDevitt Pond is located at the corner of Eagle and McMillan Roads in Meridian.   
**Park Center Pond—Boise**  
Park Center Pond is located on Park Center Boulevard just east of the Park Center Bridge in Boise.   
**Quinn's Pond—Boise**  
Travel west on Main Street to 29<sup>th</sup> Street. Turn north on 29<sup>th</sup> Street and travel 3/10 of a mile to Pleasanton Street. Turn west on Pleasanton and travel 1/10 of a mile to 31<sup>st</sup> Street. Look for the parking area on the left. Follow the Greenbelt access from the parking area to Quinn's Pond. 
3. **Boise River—Boise**  
From the E. Boise footbridge downstream to the Snake River. 
4. **Caldwell Area Ponds**  
**Caldwell (Rotary) Pond #1**   
From Interstate 84, take Exit 27 (Greenleaf/Wilder). Turn south on Centennial Way and travel 4/10 of a mile to Chicago Street. Turn west on Chicago Street and travel 2/10 of a mile to Caldwell Pond #1.  
**Caldwell Ponds #2 and #3**  
From Interstate 84, take Exit 26 (Notus/Parma). Turn west on Highway 20/26 and travel 9/10 of a mile to Pond Lane. Turn south on Pond Land and travel 2/10 of a mile to the parking area. Caldwell Ponds 2 and 3 are adjacent to one another. 
5. **Idaho City Pond—Idaho City**  
Travel north on Highway 21 from Boise to Idaho City and mile marker 39. Idaho City Pond sits adjacent to the Visitor Center at the corner of Highway 21 and Main Street. 
6. **Marsing Pond—Marsing**  
Marsing Pond is located next to the Snake River, at the eastern edge of Marsing on Highway 55. 
7. **Redtop Pond—Caldwell**  
From Interstate 84, take Exit 27 (Greenleaf/Wilder). Turn south on Centennial Way and travel 9/10 of a mile to Highway 19. Turn west on Highway 19 and travel 4 miles to Pinto Road (Lane). Turn north on Pinto Road and travel 1.5 miles to the Pinto Road/Dixie River Road junction. Travel 2/10 of a mile north on Dixie River Road to Redtop Road. Turn west on Redtop Road and travel 2/10 of a mile to Redtop Pond (north side of road). 
8. **Wilson Springs—Nampa (North and South Ponds only)**  
From Interstate 84, take Exit 38. Travel south on Garrity to the first stoplight. Turn left onto Flamingo and travel 2/10 of a mile. The road turns south and becomes Happy Valley Road. Travel nearly 4 miles to Greenhurst. Turn west on Greenhurst and travel 2 miles to South Powerline Road. Turn south and travel 7/10 of a mile to the Wilson Ponds parking area. 










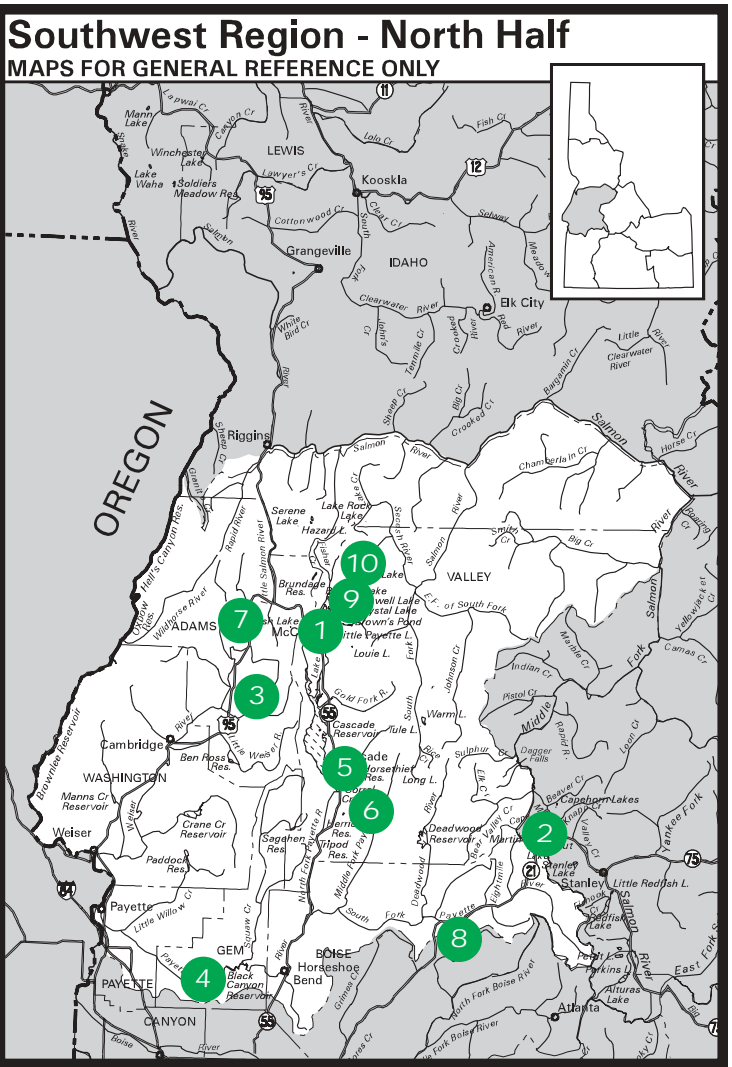
These symbols indicate fish species known to be present in these waters:







North Half Southwest Region

1. **Brown's Pond—McCall**  
Travel north on Highway 55 to McCall. Turn west on Deinhard (first stoplight) and travel 2 blocks to Mission Street. Turn south on Mission and travel 1.5 miles. Look for a large red barn and a roadside parking area on the left. Brown's Pond is about a 1/4 mile walk from the parking area. Note: Brown's Pond is not visible from the road. 
2. **Bull Trout Lake—Grandjean**  
Travel north from Lowman on Highway 21, past Grandjean and over Banner Summit. Look for the Bull Trout Lake turnoff a few miles past the summit. The lake is about 1 mile off Highway 21. 
3. **Council Park (Ol' McDonald's) Pond—Council**  
Travel north on Highway 95 to Council. Turn west on Council Avenue to N. Galena. Turn south on N. Galena and look for Council Park (Ol' McDonald's Pond) on the right. 
4. **Emmett Areas Ponds**  
**Airport Pond—Emmett**  
From the Highway 52/16 junction (Emmett), travel 1.6 miles west on Highway 52 to Airport Road. Turn south on Airport Road and travel 5/10 of a mile to the pond turnoff (just before reaching the golf course). Turn west and travel 1/10 of a mile to Airport Pond.   
**Ed's Pond—Emmett**  
From the Highway 52/16 junction (Emmett), travel 1.4 miles north on Highway 52 (Washington Street) through Emmett. Just before crossing the Payette River, turn west on Carson Street and travel 2/10 of a mile to Boise Avenue. Turn north on Boise Avenue, bear left, and cross the bridge into Gem Island Park. Follow either road to the lower end of the park and Ed's Pond.   
**Star Road Pond—Emmett**  
From the Highway 52/16 junction (Emmett), travel 3.3 miles west on Highway 52 to Star Lane. Turn south on Star Lane and travel 1.2 miles to the Star Lane Pond turnoff. Turn east and travel 2/10 of a mile to Star Pond. The turnoff is just before reaching Merrill's egg farm. 
5. **Fischer Pond—Cascade**  
Fischer Pond is located on the east side of Highway 55, just south of Cascade adjacent to the Payette River. 

FACILITIES		Boat Ramp	Fishing Docks	Toilets	Picnic Tables	Camping
Water						
North Half	Bull Trout Lake	X	X	X	X	X
	Ed's Pond			X	X	
	Fischer Pond			X	X	
	Horsethief Res.	X			X	X
	Lost Valley Res.	X	X	X	X	X
	Lowman Ponds			X	X	
	Rowland (Scout) Pond			X		
	Upper Payette Lake	X		X	X	X
South Half	Boise River			X	X	
	Caldwell City Pond		X	X	X	
	Idaho City Pond			X	X	
	Marsing Pond		X	X	X	
	ParkCenter Pond 		X	X	X	
	Quinns Pond			X		
	Redtop Pond		X			
	Veterans Park 		X	X		
Wilson Springs Pond 				X		
*If the area is not listed, it does not provide facilities.						
 Facilities are wheelchair accessible.						



6. **Horsethief Reservoir—Cascade**  
Travel through Cascade on Highway 55. Just north of town, turn east on the Warm Lake Highway and travel 13 miles to the Horsethief Reservoir turnoff on the south side of the road. 
7. **Lost Valley Reservoir—Pine Ridge**  
Travel 16 miles north from Council on Highway 95 to the community of Pine Ridge. Turn west on Lost Valley Reservoir Road and travel 4 miles to Lost Valley Reservoir. 
8. **Lowman Ponds—Lowman**  
Travel north on Highway 21 from Lowman. Look for the pond turnoff just after mile marker 85. Turn right and cross the S. Fork of the Payette River to the Lowman Ponds. 
9. **Rowland (Scout) Pond—McCall**  
Travel north on Highway 55 into McCall. Turn east on Lenora to Hemlock. Turn south on Hemlock to Davis. Turn east on Davis (go past the golf course) to Lick Creek Road. Turn east on Lick Creek Road, bearing right to Little Payette Lake. Continue past Little Payette Lake for another 2.3 miles. Look for the Scout Pond sign on the right side of the road. 
10. **Upper Payette Lake—McCall**  
Travel north through McCall on Highway 55. At the north end of town, turn north on Warren Wagon Road. Continue on Warren Wagon for 15 miles to Upper Payette Lake. 